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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Before the Examiner:

Gong et al.

Vo, Lilian

Serial No.: 09/316,754

Group Art Unit: 2127

Filed: May 21, 1999

Intellectual Property Law

Title: EFFICIENT SCHEMA FOR STORING MULTI-VALUE ATTRIBUTES IN A DIRECTORY.

IBM Corporation 11400 Burnet Road

SERVICE BACKING STORE

Austin, Texas 78758

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action having a mailing date of August 13, 2004 (Paper No. 13), having a three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on November 13, 2004, please amend the Application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on August 25, 2004.

Signature

Serena Beller

(Printed name of person certifying)